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fact. It treats with interesting reasons and consequences, the real meaning of evolutions, the larger threads and relations of cause and effect. Considerable attention is given to the influence of the West, and adaptability to changing conditions.

In sixteen chapters the author classifies by periods, and compresses into small compass, the chief historic movements and features of American history, particularly stressing changes and adjustments to meet new conditions. A brief but choice bibliography follows each chapter. For the student of politics, two of the most interesting later chapters are "Business and Politics" and "The Second Generation." In the latter chapter the author expresses appreciation of the work of Roosevelt as the "leader of the reformers," and also of the leadership of Wilson as a positive reformer in "an unequalled record of legislative achievement . . . strengthening federal authority at the expense of local governments, contrary to Jeffersonian theories of democracy."

The book is practically free from errors—although one may question the strict accuracy of a few statements, such as: "the proclamation of 1763 was acquiesced in as a temporary measure" (p. 34); "every provision of the Federal Constitution can be accounted for in American experience between 1776 and 1787" (p. 74); "the National Road (through excessive grants from sales of public lands) was extended to the Mississippi river and beyond" (p. 99). An apparent slip appears on page 110 (line 20) in the use of "them."

Necessarily such a brief, general interpretative sketch must omit much which would have been included in a more comprehensive treatment. The volume should prove interesting to the general reader and also useful as a supplementary text in a general introductory course in American history.

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From Isolation to Leadership. A Review of American Foreign Policy. By JOHN HOLLADAY LATANÉ, Ph.D., LL.D., Professor of American History in the Johns Hopkins University. (New York: Doubleday, Page and Company. 1918. Pp. x, 215.)

Professor Latané has filled in the background of the Wilsonian democracy admirably. Incidentally, he has written what for the purposes of the general reader is the best review we have of our diplomatic history. Nor will the appeal of this little volume be limited to the general reader, for so excellent is the author's selection and grouping of material

that even the special student will own a sense of obligation. The scope of the book is best indicated by its chapter headings: Origin of the Policy of Isolation; Formulation of the Monroe Doctrine; The Monroe Doctrine and the European Balance of Power; International Cooperation without the Sanction of Force; The Open-Door Policy; Anglo-American Relations; Imperialistic Tendencies of the Monroe Doctrine; The New Pan-Americanism [the contents of the chapter show that the word "new" in this connection is rather misleading]; The End of Neutrality and Isolation; The War Aims of the United States. Chapters 3, 6 and 8 are especially good; chapters 9 and 10, somewhat less satisfactory.

Naturally, in a work of this brevity, some omissions will be regretted, and some statements will appear without the final touch of accurate qualification. But such cases are rare in these skilfully written pages, as are also more positive errors. A few criticisms, however, should be noted.

The statement made on page 121, with reference to the Panama tolls controversy, that "most American authorities on international law and diplomacy believed that Great Britain's interpretation of the treaty was correct," seems most questionable. Nor was the repeal voted by Congress of the Tolls Act accorded as "an act of simple justice." Congress did not admit that any injustice had been done, but asserted by an emphatic majority the right of the United States to enact the kind of measure repealed.

The British embargo is defended by the writer in the following passages: "In the present war Great Britain has merely carried the American doctrine [of continuous voyage] to its logical conclusions" (p. 125); "she enlarged the lists of absolute and conditional contraband and under the doctrine of continuous voyage seized articles on both lists bound for Germany through neutral countries" (p. 175); "as the Declaration of London was not ratified by the British Government this distinction [between absolute and conditional contraband, as to ultimate destination] was ignored" (p. 177). In the first place, the distinction between absolute and conditional contraband is in no wise dependent on the Declaration of London, which it antedates by several generations. Again, Great Britain did not pause with ignoring this distinction; she also ignored the more fundamental distinction between contraband and innocent goods; nor was it merely goods destined to Germany through neutral ports which she stopped, but also goods coming from Germany through such ports. The American doctrine

of continuous voyage, or better ultimate destination, so far as it was applied to the carriage of contraband, was defended at the time by the British solicitor-general himself, as in harmony with Lord Stowell's decisions (see *The Stephen Hart, Blatchford's Prize Cases*, p. 387); and in no case did it override settled rules of international law, as did the British embargo.

On page 179 the suggestion is ventured that the state department would probably have taken some action regarding the German embassy's *Lusitania* advertisement "had not the incident been overshadowed by . . . the actual destruction of the *Lusitania*." In view of the department's studied silence through many months regarding much more reprehensible activities of the German embassy, this conjecture must be regarded with some skepticism.

On page 206 the author writes: "The right of a state to wage war is based on the doctrine of national sovereignty, a nineteenth century outgrowth of the old doctrine of the divine right of kings." The idea of the righteousness of war in certain circumstances would seem to be at least as old as the Old Testament. The justice of war as a redress of grievances is recognized by Grotius and before him by the Church writers. "Offensive warfare," says Vittoria, writing early in the sixteenth century, "has for object the punishment of an unjust act and to extort satisfaction from enemies; but this cannot be done unless there has been a previous fault and violation of a right" (*De Jure Belli*, p. 13). It may also be held that the doctrine of divine right is by no means the sole ingredient of the doctrine of national sovereignty.

But such challenges as these only add to a reviewer's pleasure in a book of this general excellence. A first-rate index rounds out the volume.

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A World Court in the Light of the United States Supreme Court.
By THOMAS WILLING BALCH. (Philadelphia: Allen, Lane and Scott. 1918. Pp. 165.)

In this handsomely printed volume Mr. Balch has collected and discussed the more important cases in which the Supreme Court of the United States and its predecessors, the courts appointed by the Continental Congress, have exercised jurisdiction in controversies between states, with the view, he says, "of advancing an argument in